

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#3/A

In re Accompanying Divisional Application Under  
37 CFR 1.53(b):

Prior Application: T. SAKURAI et al  
Serial No. 09/268,637  
Filed: March 16, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1651  
Examiner: F. Prats  
For: METHOD FOR PURIFYING NUCLEIC ACID AND  
APPARATUS USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 31, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application  
as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before the first line, add the paragraph:

A1 This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial  
No. 09/268,637 filed March 16, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-9 without prejudice or disclaimer, and  
add new claims 15-20, as follows: